

**Council on Postsecondary Education**  
**March 25, 2002**

# Executive Summary

## Cross-Cutting Issues

The council staff will provide an update on the state budget and other legislative issues. As usual, the last week of activity in a legislative session will be frantic as differences between the actions of both chambers on various pieces of legislation are resolved in conferences and the Senate concludes its work on the 2002-04 budget bill forwarded to it by the House.

To date, everything the council recommended as a high priority for funding has been included in the budget, with one exception: the enrollment growth and retention program. The benchmark funding adjustments are sharply curtailed, there being no money for them in the first year and \$27 million rather than \$35 million in the second. But considering the state's revenue situation, this is good. The endowment match program remains intact as of this writing.

We now have fall 2001 enrollments to help gauge our progress toward 2002 goals for the system's key indicators. A brief progress report begins on page 17.